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Dear Hal:

I have a little spare time on hand because I'm home due to being sick. I was diagnosed as suffering from "probable pneumonia" after having come down with a recurrent cough that would not stop. They have to examine some X-Rays I took to see if there is anything in them and that'll take about 2 weeks. Meanwhile I'm taking my medicines. This is the longest bout I've ever had with a cough.

As you can see from the enclosures there's quite a bit of stuff on Oliver Stone and the "JFK" movie. You had requested anything I have and what is enclosed is all I have from the time the movie opened (Dec.20, 1991) up to the very present. You'll notice there are copies of some recent magazine articles (EIGHT IN ALL, I believe) and it includes the latest "Playboy". There are many news stories all, of course, which you can keep. I'll make a few comments on some of these in this letter.

To begin with there is Alexander Cockburn's "Nation" article (Jan.6, 1992) which presents a very challenging point of view arguing against the theory that JFK was really moving to end the cold war and withdraw from Vietnam. What's your opinion of what he has to write??

I should mention that on the radio someone had called in and mentioned that Larry King had recently interviewed Califano who knew JFK and Califano flatly rejected any notion that JFK was going to pull out of Vietnam. Why? Because JFK personally told him so. This, of course, by itself means nothing as you well know.

You'll notice the article I've included on Jeff Warren, the grandson of Earl Warren. (See S.F. Chronicle, 12/30/91). Of course he defended his famous grand-father. Well, recently I heard Jeff on a talk radio show ~~(the moderator DID NOT SEEM~~ (the moderator didn't seem to know very much about the JFK case). When a caller challenged Jeff about the fact that the Volumes did not have an index, Jeff replied with a mis-statement ~~that~~ AND that the caller was in error. There was an index and in fact Jeff had found his grandfather's name in it (Obviously, Jeff was referring to the first 15 volumes of Hearings and not to the Volumes from 16 to 26 which are not indexed). But this error was not picked up by the moderator and so the mis-statement was listened to by tens of thousands and obviously left an impact on many who would otherwise question the Warren Commission.

 1/8/92

You asked if I had seen any atricles by either Warren Hinckle or Bill Turner . No, I haven't. Hinckle is very mnuch involved in writing about local poliics. When Hinckle was at "Ramparts' magazine he and his editor (Robert Scheer) expressed no great interest in the JFK case (so I was told). It was only after pressure was applied (by others) on them that they began printing articles on JFK. As for bill Turner, I've seen nothing by him.

Speaking about articles, I received a call from one researcher who told me that Groden had an article in the"Globe" paper which had color photos of the autopsy. He promised to send me copies of it.

I'll mention very briefly here some comments on the Stone "JFK" film. I noticed that Stone did not use the real name of Ruth Paine in the movie and, instead, used the name of "June Williams". This most likely was because if he had used her real name there could very well be the likelihood of a law suit.

The famous "three tramps" scenario was interwoven into the movie several times. I recently heard Jim Marrs on a radio program and he astonishingly made the statement that if one had paid very close attention to one of the scenes one would have seen a man in that scene who appears to give a "signal" to the "tramps" (Marrs did not elaborate on what that "signal" was supposed to represent). Then to add to this folly Marrs stated that there had been some "evidence" he had heard about showing CIA Agent Ed Lansdale present in the Dealey Plaza area. Here I assume Marrs may be referring to a photo which is in Garrison's book ("On the trail..."). How Marrs got someone to "identify" that as Lansdale is beyond me!

On the same radio program Marrs repeated the error of claiming that back in 1947 Jack Ruby had worked for Nixon and was prevented from testifying by Nixon himself. The moderator, of course, did not refute him. Why hasn't anyone told Marrs of the mis-information? Certainly there are enough critics out there who could have told him by now!

I've not had a chance to contact Paul Hoch to see whether he (or Peter Dale Scott) had helped Oliver Stone regarding his op-ed pieces on Vietnam. Nor have I written that San Diego doctor to see what assistance he gave Stone on the movie. Both of these I hope to take care of soon and I'll let you know what I learn.

I have a few requests to make of you. Can you send me copies of Oliver Stone's op-ed pieces in the 12/20/91 NY Times and the 12/24/91 Washington Post? I'd also like to get a copy of what both David Belin and Gerald Ford wrote which you mentioned in your last letter. There's been nothing in the press here about this and I'd like to have copies for the record. Thanks.

I trust all the information i've given you in this letter will keep you up tp date.

Best,

Hal Verb